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Application No. 10/660,063

Amendment and Response to the Office Action Dated February 23, 2007

Docket GB920020082US1

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ for adding context to a chat transcript, the apparatus comprising:
 - means for receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;
 - means for analysing ~~the~~ text of said first message;
 - means, responsive to analysis of the text, for modifying said text to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and
 - means for transmitting said ~~modified~~ second message to interested parties,

wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.
2. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 1, wherein said means for modifying the text in order to add context thereto comprises:
 - means for assigning a verb to the text; and
 - means for associating the verb with the user from which the first message is received.
3. (Original) Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the means for assigning a verb to the text comprises:
 - means for looking for matches between at least a portion of the text and at least one list, each item in a list being associated with at least one verb; and
 - means for selecting a verb associated with a matched item.

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4. (Original) Apparatus of claim 3, wherein a plurality of verbs are associated with at least one item in at least one list.
5. (Original) Apparatus of claim 4, wherein associated verbs are assigned weightings which determine how often said verbs are assigned by said assigning means.
6. (Original) Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the means for assigning a verb to the text comprises:
means for replacing at least a portion of the text with said verb.
7. (Original) Apparatus of claim 2, wherein said means for modifying the text in order to add context thereto comprises:
means for defining how the text should be displayed at a client according to at least one predefined rule.
8. (Original) Apparatus of claim 7, comprising:
means for instructing said client how to display said text, based upon at least one predefined rule.
9. (Original) Apparatus of claim 2 comprising:
means for a user to indicate their mood; and
means for using said indicated mood to influence the context added to said text .
10. (Original) Apparatus of claim 9 comprising:
means for including an adverb as part of said context, said adverb chosen according to the mood indicated by the user.
11. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1 comprising:
means for storing a history of the chat transcript.

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12. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 11 comprising:
 - means for updating said stored chat transcript;
 - means for reflecting any changes in said transcript on the display screens of users involved in the chat.
13. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1 comprising:
 - means for informing a user to whom the text belongs of the suggested context;
 - means for receiving acceptance or rejection of said suggested context;
 - and
 - means for acting upon said rejection or acceptance.
14. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1 comprising:
 - means for assigning context based on a predetermined theme.

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15. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for adding context to a chat transcript, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;

analysing the text of said first message;

responsive to analysis of the text, modifying said text to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and

transmitting said ~~modified~~ second message to interested parties;

wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of modifying the text in order to add context thereto comprises:

assigning a verb to the text; and

associating the verb with the user from which the first message is received.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of assigning a verb to the text comprises:

looking for matches between at least a portion of the text and at least one list, each item in a list being associated with at least one verb; and

selecting a verb associated with a matched item.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a plurality of verbs are associated with at least one item in at least one list.

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19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein associated verbs are assigned weightings which determine how often said verbs are assigned.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of assigning a verb to the text comprises:

replacing at least a portion of the text with said verb.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of modifying the text in order to add context thereto comprises:

defining how the text should be displayed at a client according to at least one predefined rule.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, comprising the step of:

instructing said client how to display said text, based upon at least one predefined rule.

23. (Original) The method of claim 16 comprising the steps of:

enabling a user to indicate their mood; and

using said indicated mood to influence the context added to said text.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 comprising the step of:

including an adverb as part of said context, said adverb chosen according to the mood indicated by the user.

25. (Original) The method of claim 15 comprising the step of:

storing a history of the chat transcript.

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26. (Original) The method of claim 25 comprising the steps of:
updating said stored chat transcript;
reflecting any changes in said transcript on the display screens of users
involved in the chat.
27. (Original) The method of claim 15 comprising the steps of:
informing a user to whom the text belongs of the suggested context;
receiving acceptance or rejection of said suggested context; and
acting upon said rejection or acceptance.
28. (Original) The method of claim 15 comprising the step of:
assigning context based on a predetermined theme.

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29. (Currently Amended) A computer program for adding context to a chat transcript, the computer program comprising program code means adapted to perform, when said program is run on a computer, the steps of:

- receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;
- analysing the text of said first message;
- responsive to analysis of the text, modifying said text to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and
- transmitting said ~~modified~~ second message to interested parties;
- wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.

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30. (Currently Amended) A client for adding context to a chat transcript, the client comprising:

means for receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;

means for analysing the text of said first message;

means, responsive to analysis of the text, for modifying said text to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and

means for transmitting said ~~modified~~ second message to interested parties;

wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.

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31. (Currently Amended) A server for adding context to a chat transcript, the server comprising:

means for receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;

means for analyzing the text of said first message;

means, responsive to analysis of the text, for modifying said text in order to create a second message to add context thereto; and

means for transmitting said modified second message to interested parties;

wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.